

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 16 to 26.

Claims 16, 19-21 and 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham (U.S. 4,002,599) in view of Gardner (U.S. 4,808,652) and Maddox et al. (U.S. 2002/0132059). Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham, Gardner, and Maddox et al., as applied to claim 16, and further in view of Klingler (EP 0 261 890).

Applicants respectfully traverse each of these rejections.

Claim 16 is currently amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 27, indicated in the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the outstanding prior art rejections are overcome and this application is in condition for allowance.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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